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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appellants: Merton Bernfield and Ofer Reizes

Serial No: 08/965,356

Art Unit: 1632

Filed: November 6, 1997

Examiner: A. Baker

For: METHODS AND REAGENTS FOR REGULATING OBESITY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend claims 6 and 15 into independent form.

6. (twice amended) [The] A transgenic rodent [of claim 1] whose genome comprises a stably integrated DNA sequence encoding a syndecan operably linked to a promoter, wherein expression of the DNA sequence results in the rodent developing maturity onset obesity having the genotype FVB/N-TgN(synd-1).

15. (twice amended) [The] A method [of claim 14] for screening for compounds which can alter body weight comprising:

administering a compound to a transgenic rodent whose genome comprises a stably integrated DNA sequence encoding a syndecan operably linked to a promoter, wherein expression of the DNA sequences results in the rodent developing maturity onset obesity, and

observing whether there is a change in body weight over a period of time,

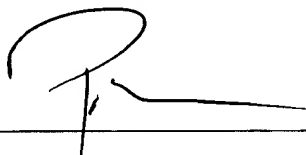
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wherein the rodent has the genotype FVB/N-TgN(synd-1).

Entry of the foregoing amendment raises no new issues and removes claims 6 and 15 from the appeal to the Board of Appeals.

Respectfully submitted,



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